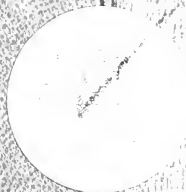


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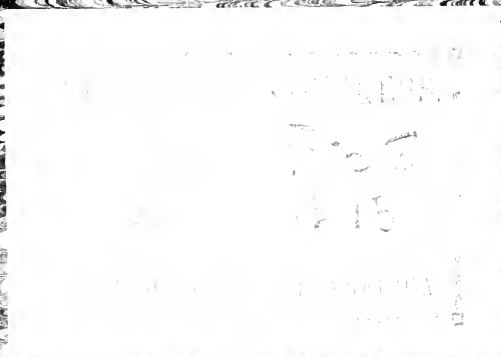
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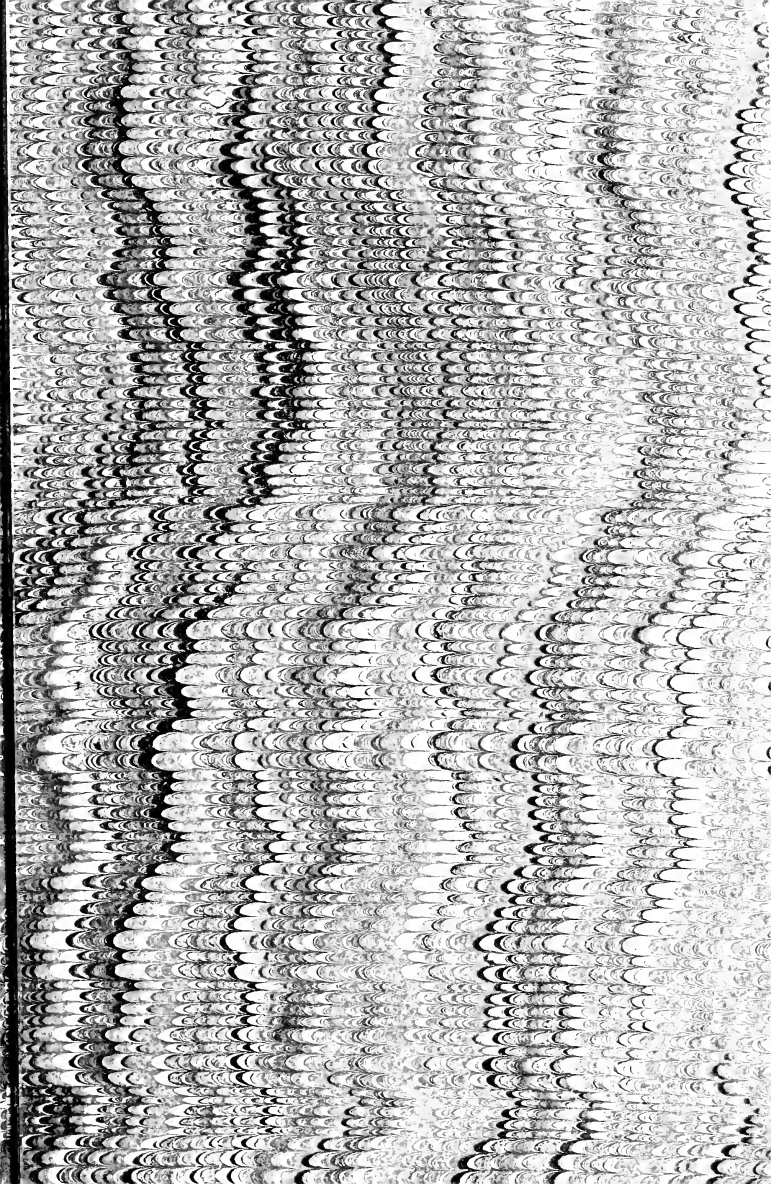
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AN
ADDRESS

TO THE

CITIZENS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,

ON THE

APPROACHING ELECTION OF
STATE OFFICERS.



By a CITIZEN.



FELLOW-CITIZENS,

AS the important period for choosing STATE OFFICERS draws nigh, it cannot be thought unadvisable to remind you of those duties which then devolve upon you. The enveterate enemies of our Republican Government are very busy on their part, to keep up their influence. Republicans, who are such in reality and not in mere professions, and to whom is owing, under God, all the great and invaluable privileges and blessings we enjoy, ought to be as indefatigable in promoting their cause, as others are in injuring it. The latter then, will not be able, with all their mighty exertions and influence to do us much mischief; and what they may do, will eventually injure only themselves. *The Commonwealth shall receive no detriment from their manœuvres: but rise in dignity and splendor, to their*

New-Hampshire, that they have judgment and knowledge to discern, and spirit to reward known and proved merit ; that they are anxious to advance men capable of conducting wisely the public affairs ; and that they have capacity to discriminate between the *true* Patriot and the *false*, the men well informed and heartily disposed to manage the public business to the best advantage, and with the strictest economy. There are those among us, Fellow-Citizens, who under the pretence of fear of the *prejudices of the People*, for their own purposes, cast on them unmerited reproach ; and there are many Citizens in this State, who ardently wish its prosperity, but are misled by men of influence, who, under pretexts of love of Liberty and their Country, are only seeking their own emolument, and exerting themselves with an unwearied assiduity, to bring our general Government into disrepute, and to effect a revolution in favour of one tyrannical and oppressive, which would render the American world a world of cringing slaves, bowing obsequiously to their domineering masters. To those pretended friends of liberty, the advancement of worthy and faithful Republicans to important stations, would be an intolerable eye-sore. Hence the inveterate enmity and opposition to the Republicans of our State, those Citizens who have been invariably, from the commencement of our contest, through every succeeding scene of adversity and prosperity, its hearty friends, and strongly attached to the Union, on which our security depends. What strenuous efforts have been made to bring into disgrace the Republican cause, and every friend of liberty, of this State and of the general Government. And the same spirit of enmity and opposition is still exerting itself by every ungenerous means to deprive us of those privileges and blessings for which we fought and suffered. And this, Fellow-Citizens, loudly calls us, *every one of us*, to the most diligent and faithful attention to our dearest interests to examine the characters, connexions and views of men in office ; that, on the approaching election, we may act our parts with knowledge, with vigor and firmness ; as men determined to maintain the Freedom we have so dearly purchased, and to rid ourselves of every obstacle to the prosperity and happiness of this State. It is a due attention, and not ability that is

many of us been so easy and indifferent about men in public stations, whose views have been inimical to Liberty, though they make high pretensions of being its friends? Can any of us conceive, that men who have, and still discover the most pointed contempt of our general Government and its present administrators, are fit to manage the affairs of the State; or to be preferred to those who understand, admire and love our Constitution and Government, who are friends to the administration, and approve the wise and salutary measures which have been adopted and pursued agreeably to the voice of the People; and who have been, in every stage of our Revolution unwearied in their exertions for the general good, and the firm establishment of the Union? Among these, was the Hon. JOHN LANGDON, most eminently conspicuous; and none more spitefully opposed by the federal or tory party, who have had so shameful an influence in this State. Is Col. LANGDON, Fellow-Citizens, become less worthy of your esteem and confidence for his steady and invariable attachment to the true interests of his country—for being one of the first and most active in the cause of Liberty at the commencement of our contest with Great-Britain—and for having been, without change or duplicity, the same zealous friend to his country and to this State; whose exertions and wisely conducted zeal rendered him highly respected and beloved by all the wise and good men throughout the Union? and still is he viewed by them as the firm and immoveable Patriot. And many who were his enemies, in different parts of the Union, men too of great abilities, and whose discernment led them to distinguish characters, have become his firm friends, at the same time that they became likewise the friends of all the faithful men of our country. That any among us should be influenced by designing men, against one of the best and worthiest characters in the State and Union, is certainly much to their dishonour. Can we observe, without the deepest resentment, the contempt with which our Republican Government is treated, by those who are bound to act differently; and the measures pursued by the administrators of our Federal Government, tending to the permanent security of our liberties and privileges, to the additional strength and riches of our country by an immense increase of valuable territory, and the

GILMAN, in his speech, says nothing of the great things transacting in Congress, on which a Republican Magistrate, having the real good of his country at heart must have found much to say, and with the highest commendations of the President, and the triumphant majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives. I have heard it observed, that Gov. Gilman was as good a man for the public, as any one could be, who might succeed him. If he is so good for the public, why has he not expressed himself with that freedom and independence of mind, which characterises a true Republican, on the great and important concerns of the State, and of the Union ? Has he not rather discovered a mind corresponding with the disaffected party, whose conduct has so strongly evidenced their enmity to our Federal Republican Government, and their designs to effect a separation of the States ? Can there be Republican Citizens among us, who can rest satisfied with the continuance in the first offices of the State, of men who appear so inimical to the wisest and most philanthropic measures, or be reconciled to a preponderancy of Anti-Republican influence, or of adherents to a tory party who have made so ungrateful a use of the indulgence with which they have been treated ; men who, in past years, were the most mischievous enemies of our country, and powerful aids to our British foes ? Can we forget with what insult and abuse Republicans were treated in the reign of terror ? Can we lose the remembrance of that gloomy period, when the most worthy and respectable part of the nation were stigmatized as unworthy the favour or confidence of the public ;—were [as is justly observed by a writer, introduced as a *convert* from Federalism] “ in one respect in a state of out-law, in another over-awed by a sedition act, that by its severity trampled on the freedom of opinion, expression and political debate, and consequently the freedom of the press ? ” “ The measures of government (continues this writer,) could hardly be canvassed ; for they cloathed themselves in a coat of armour, and set their opponents at defiance. But the sedition act has crumbled to pieces, under the auspices of the present wise administration ; which is persuaded, that a government acting on a liberal, just, virtuous and enlightened policy, need not seek elsewhere for protection, than in the minds and

umph of Liberty and Republicanism has effected, that every Citizen may make a free and bold enquiry into the conduct of Public Officers : and, it is to be hoped, we shall no more have sounded in our ears the detestable opinion of Federal and Tory politicians, that *the People are themselves their greatest enemies*—a sentiment calculated to establish the thrones of kingly and priestly tyranny, a union of Church and State against the liberties and happiness of Mankind.

If the People are their own greatest enemies, as represented by one of the Federal orators, where are they to find friends capable of preserving them from themselves ? Are there a species of men, who possess the superior virtue and wisdom to guard them from the destruction in which they would involve themselves ? and where are they to be found ? The Ex-President, and other such good men, it seems, can point them out to us, and put us under their gracious protection. Such men, in the pride of their self-exalting hearts, have formerly despised public opinion, and thwarted the generous purposes of the People. But their day of rule and insult is over ; and never, never may it return !

The Philanthropists of this age have nobly exerted themselves to effect the total dissolution of that baleful union of Church and State, which has in past ages rendered the nations pre-eminently miserable. With us, Fellow-Citizens, this union is not allowed to exist, though much pains has been taken to establish it. We have learned, that without the enjoyment of Religious Liberty, there can be no real and permanent political freedom. Church and State, united against the People, involve them in horrid darkness, and bind them with cruel fetters—And we have yet too many among us in this State, who would rejoice to see us in this wretched situation. It depends on us to affect a decrease of their number and influence, by advancing, to the highest trusts, men who abhor every species of tyranny and oppression ; that we be no longer imposed on by those who are for managing the government, not with a philanthropic spirit, but so as shall best answer their own sordid purposes, and who would, were it in their power, put a final end to the exercise of reason among the People. For this they would have Religion and Politics united, that proud and haughty priests and statesmen might be the only eniovers

sure. Our government is calculated to stir up Citizens to enquiry, by which we shake off prejudices, and become more and more united in sentiments of love and good will towards each other. If we suffer ourselves to be debarred from free enquiry, we are then no longer men, we are no longer rationals. There are too many of those among us, who would have Government and Laws unalterably fixed, and no room left for improvement of either. These men, could they have their way, would establish a perpetual tyranny. Let us be careful, Citizens, to avail ourselves of the blessings of a government, founded on the truest and noblest principles, "adopted on full investigation and mature deliberation, *completely free* in its principles, uniting security with energy, and *containing within itself a provision for its own amendment.*"* Let us in choosing our Public Officers, act agreeably to the dictates of reason and conscience, and in seeking the happiness of our own State, seek that of the Union. It is thus we shall act wisely and effectually, and posterity will remember us with gratitude, for the blessings we shall hand down to them.

The People of New-England are fast emerging from the inthrallment of men disaffected to Liberty. They must ever remember the "revolutionary motto, *united we stand, divided we fall.*" In that period when men's souls were tried, the Northern and Southern States were destitute of sinister and local prejudices. Such may they ever remain, under their present free governments—*of one heart and one soul*—one and indivisible. This will constitute our stability, glory and felicity ; and no power on earth shall be able to wrest from us our great and invaluable blessings.

The continuence of men in office for so many years successively, is contrary to the rotatory principle established by the Constitution ; a wise principle, and of high importance both to the preservation of liberty, and the encouragement of citizens to qualify themselves to serve their country. In such a government as ours, men in public stations are sensible that their abilities, integrity and faithfulness are their only recommendations to the public favor, and such men will not be desirous of continuing in their offices to the exclusion of others equally capable with themselves. In a free country, the measures pursued by the administration, are freely and plainly laid before the people for their examination and

for their approbation or disapprobation ; and none can act against their interests with impunity. This has been lately evidenced in the United States, highly to the credit and honor of the people, who, with one voice, dismissed from their service those who abused the trust reposed in them.— Let us shew the same spirit and energy, and we shall experience the good effects of a change of officers, and rise in due respectability among our sister States. Let those who have been under the influence of designing men, confederated with a disaffected party, aiming to promote discord, and to effect a separation of the States, exert those powers of reason which the creator has bestowed upon them, in a diligent enquiry into the management and views of men who have been so long in office. Suffer not yourselves to be led by those who would make use of your money to rivett on you and posterity the chains of slavery. Or are you content always to go in leading strings ? Are you not accountable to God and your Country for the improvement of your rational faculties ? Or, are any of you, who, in our revolutionary struggle, exerted a noble spirit of freedom and independence, become so lost to public virtue, as, for the sake of sordid self interest, to yield yourselves to the guidance of the decided enemies of liberty, and of the true interests of our country ? Shameful degeneracy ! And shame, disgrace and wretchedness will, sooner or later, reward such apostacy ; unless, calling to mind what you once were, you rouse from your infatuation, and, casting away the fetters which are binding you, you become *your former selves* ; otherwise, your unprincipalled leaders, taking advantage of the sordid and avaricious disposition you have suffered to grow upon you, will, by the use they will make of you, convince you, perhaps for ever too late, of your folly in submitting to become their tools.

We have every reason to hope, Fellow-Citizens, that the union of the United States, so glorious to our country, is established on the most durable foundation, which no efforts of those who are inimical to it, will ever be able to subvert. The great and increasing knowledge and experience of the people, daily convinces them more and more of its importance to their security and prosperity ; and converts from federal or monarchical and aristocratical doctrines, are multiplied in every State. Neither will the people of any one State

crafty men, lying in wait to deceive. They will become *all alive* to their invaluable interests, and with the spirit which fired their souls in former times of conflict and danger, they will rid themselves of an unprincipled tory faction, whose influence has so long predominated, and call to places of public trust their Republican friends, who were united with them in accomplishing our Revolution and Independence, and who have been steady and invariable in their political sentiments, and largely contributed by their exertions, to the downfall of monarchical and aristocratical pride and power, the advancement of JEFFERSON, the MAN OF THE PEOPLE, to the chief seat in the General Government, and the most respectable of citizens to share with him in conducting the great affairs of our country. The measures they have pursued, have met with universal approbation and applause, except from the disappointed faction, and excited the admiration of surrounding nations. The sly attempts that have been made, by some who wore the mask of Republicanism, with the aid of unprincipalled men of the various parties, to raise an interest in the governments against the Republican interest, to aggrandize and enrich themselves at the expense of the people, have been defeated : Republicans have renewed their strength, and induced a rational conviction from thence, that no weapon formed against them will prosper ; that they will ever rise superior to the secret or open efforts and stratagems of their enemies.

The sentiments expressed by our President, in his published letter of Sept. 4, 1800, are truly characteristic of a man worthy of the place he holds in the government, and the hearts of the people ; speaking of whom, he observes, that “the interests they have at stake are intitled to *their whole attention*, unbiassed by personal esteem or local considerations.” Happy will it be for us if we are ever duly impressed by the sentiment. The President further says in his letter, that which is received as truth by every Republican, and which has invariably influenced his own conduct—that “a preponderance of the Executive over the Legislative branch, cannot be maintained but in immense patronage, by multiplying offices, making them very lucrative, by armies, navies, &c. which may enlist on the side of the patron, all those whom he can interest, and all their families and

of opinions which, to say only the least of them, doom the labouring citizen to toil and sweat for pageants."—Such were the delights of the former administration, by which the People were miserably oppressed; and the citizens were to labour, toil and sweat to support their extravagances and monarchical grandeur. If there be any among you, Fellow Citizens, who are fond of such grandeur, and desire to support a party who would rejoice in its establishment, they will doubtless exert themselves to place in office the friends of monarchy and of the administration of the ex-President, in which exertions should they succeed, they will have cause to repent of their obsequious compliance with the views of men, who will care no further for them, than what conduces to their own emolument. The evils which it must be expected would arise from their continued influence, must soon become intolerable to all the friends of our Republican Government. Let us then arrest the progress of an influence baneful to this State, and to the general government, and by our vigorous exertions for the promoting to office those citizens in whom we can confide, restore to New-Hampshire her former celebrity

Fellow-Citizens and Countrymen, let the high importance of our being united, steady and unwavering in the best of causes, be my apology for the freedom and zeal with which I address you. For what friend to Liberty and to his country can think, without the deepest anxiety, on the appearances of disaffection or treachery among Republicans, or without horror on the awful consequences that must follow continued and increasing divisions and animosities among ourselves! What destructive work was carrying on in the southern States, by false-hearted and apostate Republicans, in a vile confederacy with the *federal faction*! But (thanks to Heaven!) the Genius of Liberty triumphed over their treacherous machinations:—And is there not too solid grounds for the assertion, that there is among us a dereliction of principle for selfish ends, and divisions arising from ambitious designs, personal resentments, and federal or tory influence? Think not that I am influenced by the vanity of a superficial mind, or that I write from any selfish view. It is the happiness of my country, and the love of freedom that inspires my pen, and the dangers to which we are exposed from false friends, as well as from more conspicuous enemies.

Liberty, than enjoy the most exalted station in a world of dastardly cringing slaves, or associate and harmonize with men betraying their country from selfish views, or for sordid gain. It is too shamefully true, that many are indifferent, others wavering, and that some have forsaken the cause in which they were once zealously and successfully engaged.—O God of benevolence !—Is such the return we make to thee for the great things thou hast accomplished for us, when we appealed to thee for the justice of our cause, and thou answeredst us with the most propitious smiles, and the most astonishing displays of thy protecting goodness.

No sooner had we triumphed over our enemies, and established our Independence, than many of us forgot our high-standing, and the divine power that exalted us into a nation the most respectable on earth ; and we became disgraced by divisions among ourselves. It is such baseness and folly, and ingratitude to Heaven, which, should it prevail, must inevitably prove our ruin ; and our enemies will triumph over us with a malignant joy. No true Republican would wish to survive such a defeat. The Patriot Cato, of *Rome*, could not out-live his country's wretched degradation ; it burst his noble heart—and he bid adieu to a world given up to tyrants as a scourge for human ingratitude, and took his seat in the mansions of unsullied honor, and unclouded glory.—But, should this shameful degeneracy, from principle, grow upon us, and, (which may gracious Heaven avert !) our enemies gain the ascendancy through our egregious folly—still true-hearted Republicans will be glorious ; they will still be the *excellent of the earth* ; and the *ÆRA* of JEFFERSON, and the illustrious WORTHIES, who now adorn and aggrandize our Country, and dignify human nature, will, in future ages, be celebrated and admired in every region of the world.

If the love of Country, Fellow-Citizens—of Liberty, of virtue—If wisdom to plan, and energy to execute measures effectually conducive to the safety and prosperity of the STATES and the *General Government*—If these are things valuable in your eyes, then JEFFERSON and his REAL FRIENDS must be ever high in your esteem. The advancement and support of such men will do honor to your Country, render you venerable in the eyes of mankind. Your example will

receive the plaudit of Heaven, and all the beneficent beings
who exist through wide creation's range.

COL. JOHN LANGDON,

Fellow-Citizens, is the citizen we recommend
to you as candidate for your GOVERNOR, as de-
serving of your choice, as he is well known by
all the friends of Liberty and of the Union, as
the same changeless and invariable Patriot.

FEBRUARY 1804.



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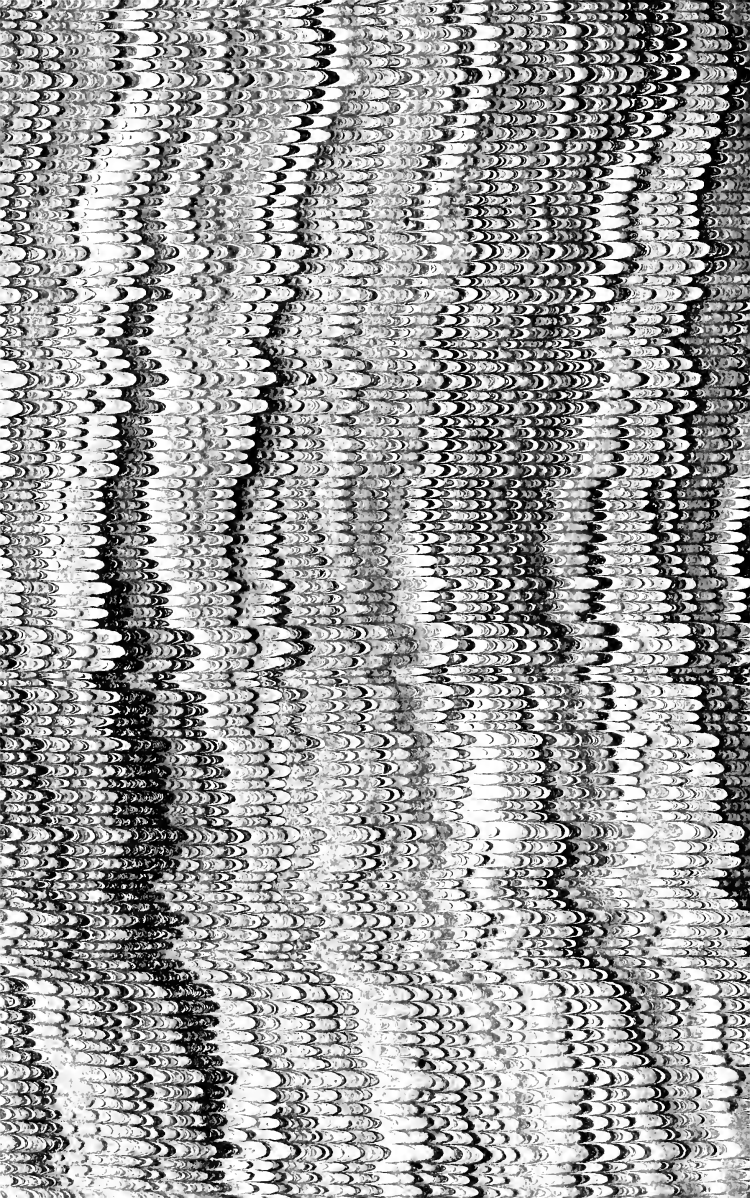


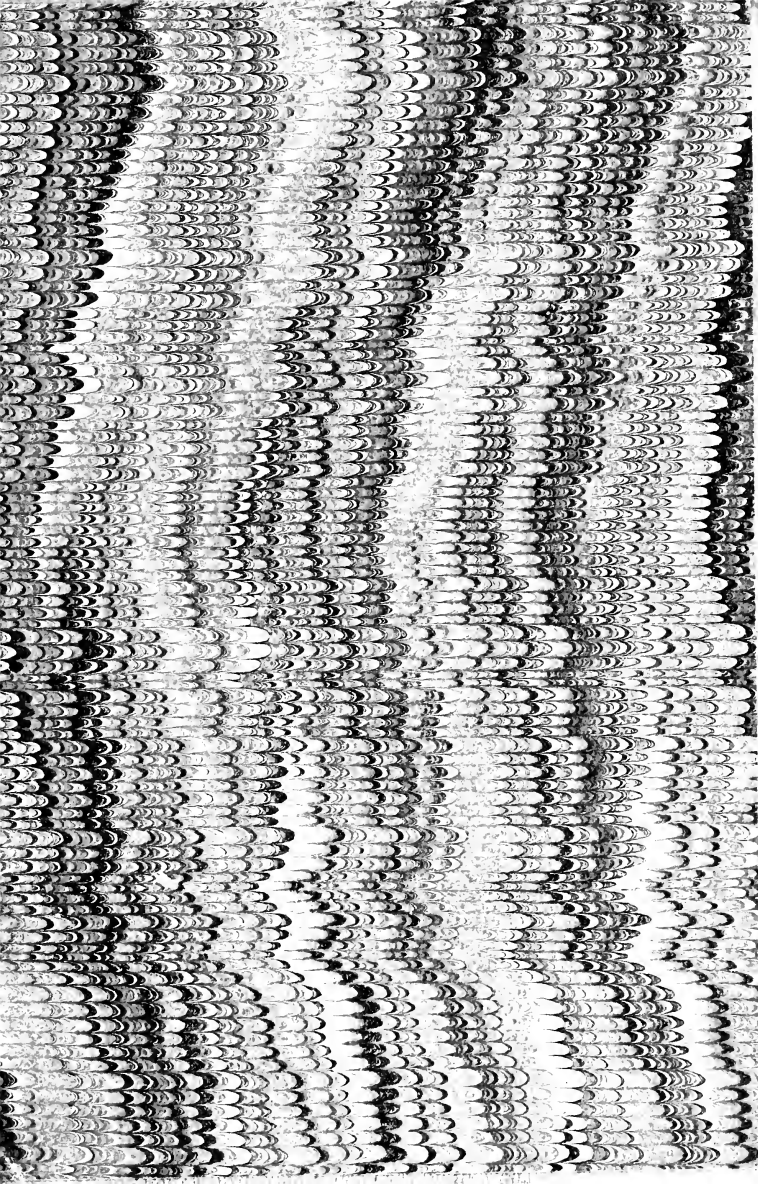












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